


THE
BHARAT SCOUTS & GUIDES
BULLETIN
MADRAS STATE

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No. 3

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH



Push on with the organisation. Nothing else is necessary but these—love, sincerity and Patience. What is life but growth? that is expansion, that is love. Therefore, all love is life. It is only law of life. All selfishness is death, and this is true here or hereafter. It is life to do good, it is death not to do good to others.

—SWAMI VIVEKANANDA.

OURSELVES

HOMAGE TO GURUDEV

The World today is celebrating the centenary of one of the illustrious sons of this country—Dr. Rabindranath Tagore. Born in 1861, Tagore was a renowned poet and philosopher and the West recognised his genius even in the beginning of this century. Dr. Tagore was the recipient of the Nobel Prize for literature, an unique honour an Indian could expect in those stormy days.

Wherever he went, he was respected as a preacher of world brotherhood. Whenever he spoke abroad, he was listened to with rapt attention and when he recited his poems in Bengali in his inimitable melodious voice, the audience were spell bound and were lifted to a world of its own.

The Vishvabharati University he founded embodies many aspects of outdoor living. Dr. Tagore was one with Nature. The crest of a hill, the thickening cloud, the chirping bird, the blossoming flower, in fact, everything in Nature, had an unique message for him. In one of his works he says :

“We had a small garden attached to our house, it was a fairyland to me, where miracles of beauty were of every-day occurrence. Almost every morning in the early hour of the dusk, I would run out from my bed in a hurry to greet the first pink flush of the dawn through the trembling leaves of the cocoanut trees, while the grass glistened as the dewdrops caught the first tremor of the morning breeze. The sky seemed to bring to me the call of a personal companionship, and all my heart, my whole body in fact, used to drink in at a draught the over flowing light and peace of these silent hours. I was anxious never to miss a single morning, because each one was precious to me, more precious than gold to the miser.”

Dr. Tagore besides being a messiah who propagated love, peace and universal Brotherhood, had interpreted India's culture in an unique way to the Westerners. This signal service he did to this great country paved the way for a better understanding of India's aspiration by the West.

Let us join together and pay our homage to this great soul.

SCOUT PEN FRIENDS

Often many letters are received from Scouts abroad. It is our desire that our Scouts too respond to them. If it is beyond any Scout to meet the cost of postage it should be easy for the Troop, Group or Local Association to help the individual in this matter. Such correspondence will enable boys to get to know each other. As Edward Crank, Scoutmaster, Michigan, U.S.A. puts it in a letter published elsewhere, "who knows what will come of this correspondence"?

SCOUT EXHIBITIONS

A newsitem of a Scout Exhibition is published below. It is learnt that Madurai District Association also has put up a very interesting stall at the Madurai Chitrai Festival Exhibition. Such Scout Exhibitions should be held in a larger measure all over our State. They help to focus the attention of the people on the importance of the movement and the intrinsic potentiality of the boy and the girl.

A SCOUT EXHIBITION

The Local Association, Villupuram organised for the second year in succession a Scout Exhibition during the local Lakshadeepam Festival. Exhibits were contributed by the Municipal High School Scout Troop, Mahatma Gandhi Patasala Scout and Guide Units, the Southern Railway Scout Group, and V. O. C. Rover Crew, Villupuram. Charts, Models in pioneering and Scout-craft, and articles of handicraft were exhibited.

The exhibition was opened on April 12, '61 by Mr. P. Hamid Ali, B.A., B.L., Municipal Commissioner.

At a special meeting on April 23, '61 merit certificates were distributed by Sri P. G. Krishnamoorthy, A. D. C., Villupuram to individual Scouts, Guides, Scouters and Guiders who contributed the Exhibits. The interest shown by the scouts, guides, scouters and guiders in organising and running the exhibition was encouraging.

CANALISES THE YOUTHFUL ENERGIES IN A USEFUL MANNER

The role of Scouting in National re-construction

Madras Governor's address to Scouters and Guiders

The Insignia of Patron of the Bharat Scouts and Guides Association, Madras State, was presented to the Governor of Madras, Sri Bisnuram Medhi on April 4, 1961 at Raj Bhavan, Guindy. The Governor addressing the Scouters and Guiders present on the occasion said :

“It is with very great pleasure that I accept the Patronship of the Bharat Scouts Organisation and I consider it a great honour to be the patron of an organisation which canalises the youthful energies in a useful manner and in building up character. This organisation is well known for inculcating the quality of rendering service without expectation of any reward. Since the advent of Independence, we are engaged in the work of national reconstruction and the building up of character of our boys and girls is quite essential in pushing through this great work.

The principles that govern the scouts and guides movement and the methods adopted by the organisation for serving the nation are worthy of emulation by one and all. I am very glad that I have been invited to become the Patron of this organisation. May God help us in our endeavours.”

“TRAINING NEEDS IN A CHANGING WORLD”

by Mr. John Thurman, Camp Chief, Gilwell

In the early days Scouting offered to boys something unique—scouts were in fact, the first campers. Now our activities are enjoyed by people all over the world, and we should take this as a compliment. No other organisation has succeeded in capturing the spirit of Scouting. This Scouting spirit is only achieved when the boys and Scouters try to put the Promise into action. Unity of spirit and method must be maintained if we are to achieve our aims and one is useless without the other. Spirit founded on straightforward principles—method constantly developing from Founder's teaching.

A FEW DANGERS IN THE PATTERN OF SCOUTING TODAY

1. Servants of tradition, who will accept nothing new.
2. Those who want to discard everything that is—old. Test it, does it still work today?
3. Those who want members, not individual progress.
4. Administration becoming all important. The boy is the most important thing
5. Crew losing the missionary spirit, and rejecting boys who are not quite as “Respectable” as we would like? These are often most in need of Scouting.
6. We must recognize our limitations. We can only help boys who want what Scouting has to offer, and cannot adapt in to suit all boys.
7. Remember that brotherhood begins at home—we should not accept foreigners as brothers then wrangle in the Group or District.
8. Danger of riding our own pet hobby-horse and presenting something having no resemblance in Scouting.
9. Refusal to experiment.
10. The fear of failure.

THE TRAINING OF THE LEADER

This is a competitive age—boys have plenty to choose from, so Scouting must be good and we need leaders of a very high standard.

LEADERS NEED

1. A genuine belief and acceptance of the aims and principles of scouting. If they do not accept them, they should leave.

2. Technical ability for the job. Day of the dedicated, incompetent is past. The programme and presentation attract the boy—he leaves if he does not get what he expects.

WOOD BADGE TRAINING

B. P. Said "I invented Wood Badge Training to make sure that Scouting will work". Wood Badge has a unifying effect—110 nationalities wearing it. At first it was a series of lectures in camp, now has immense accumulated experience and employs up-to-date methods and best modern techniques. It gives leaders a glimpse of Scouting through the eyes of the boy, and gives practical proof that brotherhood is real, not an ideal. It stimulates the imagination, and develops a sense of adult responsibility.

TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN TRAINED

Training is given so that the boys will get better Scouting. If that has happened, then training succeeded, if not the training, then you have failed.

TO THOSE WHO HAVE NOT BEEN TRAINED

Are you sincere? Refusal to train suggests arrogance? Training helps new Scouters avoid mistakes made by former ones.

Are you unselfish? Lack of time and money can usually be overcome.

Scouting developed because it fulfils the needs of boys. People of many talents can be used, and variety of personalities is a good thing. It developed because of the methods of leader training, which leaves freedom of method and personality.

MISSIONARY QUALITIES WHICH ARE VALUABLE IN A SCOUTER

1. Belief in his task.
2. Acceptance of available training.
3. Patience, waiting for results and achievements.
4. Courage to accept what is difficult because he is not afraid to fail.

Without that kind of approach, no Scouter will be able to make his fullest possible contribution.

—The Scouting Digest.

RHYTHM AND MUSIC IN MASS DRILL

Gandhiji's address to Scouts



The following excerpts from the "HARIJAN" of December 31 1938 will be of great interest to Scouters :

Addressing the Scouts at Wardha, Gandhiji said :

"I congratulate you on the demonstration of the drill that you have given. It is necessary part of your training. But while you have made a fine beginning, you have still much ground to traverse.

SAVING IN NATIONAL TIME AND ENERGY

"The object of mass drill is to enable large bodies of people to perform any movement rhythmically and swiftly and with absolute percision. What a saving in national time and energy it would mean if we could do that in our public meetings and functions! There is a silent music in disciplined movement of masses of men and women. There is a rhythm and music in drill that makes action effortless and eliminates fatigue. If the whole nation of 300 millions could be drilled so as to move together and act together and if necessary to die together as one man, we should attain independence without striking a blow and set an example of a peaceful revolution for the whole world to emulate."

THE BIRTH DAY AMONG BIRTH DAYS

Kumari C. John, State Organising Commissioner (Guides)

A chain of Thinking Days and Golden Jubilee celebrations has been held all over in India, in many States, Districts, Groups and Companies.

To have had Lady Baden-Powell herself, on her own Birthday, right in our country at Pachmarhi, our National Training Centre, the Gilwell and Fozlease of India, will ever remain a great honour and pride to every one of us.

RESPONSE TO CLARION CALL

In response to the clarion call of the Camp Chief (Guides) about 50 Rangers from 14 States were gathered at Pachmarhi, adventuring and exploring various topics, such as Pathfinding, Folklore, Camp craft, Flora and Fauna. They had the privilege of giving a last touch to the B. P. Memorial Guide Bhavan, washing the mirrors, doors and floor besides being the first Campers to pitch their tents on the Guide Camping grounds, hitherto unoccupied. They made the forest echo with their Jubilant 'Pachmarhi Geeth'.

Rovers too were there camping on the land beyond the "Nalla" manfully pursuing their adventures, their 'Yells' ringing in hillsides. Commissioners from different States also camped for their Conference. After visiting each State, Lady Baden-Powell accompanied by Miss Helen MacSwiney finally arrived at Pachmarhi.

A DAY TO BE REMEMBERED

The Commissioners, Rovers and Rangers assembled in the shady wood in the early morning. It was February 22nd! Lady Baden-Powell stepped out of the Car. The spell bound moment-vibrated with thoughts of joy and happiness in every one, standing around, thinking and thanking. Prayers and praises from Christian, Hindu, Parsi, Sikh and Muslim religions echoed in the air one after the other. Thinking day collection was presented with greetings to those of our Family in other countries.

After the Chief Commissioner (Guide)'s talk Lady Baden-Powell addressed the breathlessly awaiting gathering. She said it was her happiest birthday, which she shared with her husband. She said the reason why it was her happiest birthday was this-February 22nd is now the birthday of three people. Of Lord Baden-Powell who was born in 1857 and of Olave Somes who was born 32 years later in 1889 and of the B. P. Memorial Guide Bhavan which came up 72 years later in 1961 at Pachmarhi!

I WISH I HAD

By R. M. Allen, A.S.M., Dallas, Texas

I am in Scouting because I have come to know, in a small way, something of its aims and ideals. I believe in those aims and ideals. But when I think of the lost years before I finally got my teeth into Scouting and took my responsibilities seriously, I am moved to write this article. I hope it may help some other "paper Scouters" avoid my mistakes.

Through The Youth's Companion or Boys' magazine I first learned of Scouting and was interested but there was no troop near my rural home. Some time later I read a story about Dan Beard and Lone Scouts. I wrote a letter asking about this program, but decided that Scouting was intended for smaller boys, so I didn't mail the letter. I wish I had.

A long, long time after that, in the winter of 1951-52, I was told that I had been named to the Cub Scout committee. No one told me to do anything and I made no inquiries. I wish I had.

PAPERS TO SIGN OCCASIONALLY

Some time in the summer of 1952, I received word that I was on the Boy Scout committee. I understood that there would be some papers to sign occasionally, may be, and that if the Scoutmaster moved, we would, perhaps have to try to find another one. I made no further inquiries. I wish I had.

One day one of my friends told me that he was an institutional representative. I was awed by the title. He told me some of the things that I should have been doing. He gave me a little book about the duties of a troop committee. I asked him who had been doing all these things that we committee-men should have been doing. He said "the Scoutmaster". I had never read that book before. I wish I had.

I went to the next troop meeting and was amazed at the troop organisation. The Junior leaders worked splendidly. The Scoutmaster filled out papers for about an hour after the boys had gone

home. I stayed and watched him fill them out, and we talked a little about Scouting. What a fine, dedicated man he was. He asked me to go to the roundtable. I went and learned a lot of things. I hadn't known that there was such a thing and hadn't taken the trouble to find out. I wish I had.

ONLY COMMITTEEMAN ATTENDING TROOP GATHERINGS

From that time on I did what I could. The Scoutmaster had no assistants and he had a big troop. I was not much help, because I hadn't learned how. I wish I had.

One day I was told that I was committee chairman. I suppose that was because I was the only committeeman who was going to the troop meetings. I was told that the Board of Review would meet when called. I didn't know that the Board of Review was a part of the committee job. In fact, I had learned little about any part of Scouting. I wish I had.

Eventually a letter came telling about the basic Scouter's training course. I asked for an assistant's job and got it. I learned by doing, every requirement from Tenderfoot through First Class, taking boys through the same route. I went to summer camp three successive years and to dozens of overnight camps. I took a little training, but I did not avail myself of many of the training opportunities offered. I wish I had.

I have done a feeble bit in the Scouter's training programme. This included assisting in the camping course and serving as course leader in several other basic courses and as director of one advanced Scouter's course. I haven't done much. I wish I had.

PROBLEMS CAME UP IN WORK

Then came my big experience in Scouting. I received an invitation to attend the Scout Wood Badge Course. This gave me a feeling of pride, as I knew that some one had confidence that I was worthy and that I could help. I accepted and began laying plans for the experience at Camp Constantin. But, just as the time came, serious problems came up in my work. It seemed impossible

for me to make arrangements to go. I wrote a letter explaining why I wouldn't be able to make it. I took the letter home and showed it to my wife.

She read it, thought for a moment, then said "Whoever asked you to go thinks that you will go and come back and help train the others. It's not only an honor - it's a chance to help. You can't let him down."

I didn't mail that letter. I'm glad I didn't.

I did go to Wood Badge and get a view from the mountain top. I'm glad I did.

I'm through with wishing I had.

I'm glad I am.

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This article on missed opportunities will be an eye opener to many of the Scouters and Guiders. Mrs. R. M. Allen shows us the way that Scout and Guide Training "is not only an honour—it a chance to help".

Many in the movement may have similar experiences to share with others. It is hoped that they would gather them in an article and send it for publication in this magazine.

—Editor.

CALLED TO HIGHER SERVICE

We regret to announce the demise of Dr. Panagal Srinivasa Rao, former Vice-President of the East Madras Bharat Scouts and Guides. He is the illustrious father of Dr. P. Vadhiraja Rao, Assistant District Commissioner of the East Madras and Dr. P. Seshagiri Rao of Krishna Scout Group, East Madras. He had evinced a deep interest in the Movement and had been one of the pillars of the East Madras District Association. The Scouts will cherish sweet memories of his association with the Scout activities in that District.

YOUTH, AND YOUTH SERVICE TO-DAY

'New Trends in Youth Organisations' is the name of a study recently compiled by Unesco. It is based on material from publications dealing with the problems of young people or youth organizations and replies to a questionnaire sent out to about 100 specialists in national or international organizations (including the World Association), as well as to individual experts in the field of youth work.

The conclusion of the survey outlines the special function of youth movements in the training of young people to-day, as expressed by Mr. Vittorio Veronese, the Director-General of Unesco. At a lecture delivered at the Sorbonne in the 'Meridien' lecture series, by invitation of the Boy Scouts International Bureau and the International Association of Workers for Mal-adjusted Children, he summed up the role of youth organizations as follows :

1. 'To teach a concrete knowledge of living conditions and the way they influence man's conduct.
2. To bring out the requirements for the functioning of democracy and, at all times, to offer training for life in democracy.
3. To act as a guide, towards a higher ideal.
4. To educate youth to assume its social responsibilities.
5. To bring out the need of collective action to transform society and to organize collective activities to serve the community.....

.....'In other words', he said, 'I think it is essential, at the present time, to offer young people causes which they may serve by action, but also to help them to acquire the knowledge necessary for understanding of the Modern world and, finally, to give them practice in reflection and personal appraisal and decision'.

"THE PUBLIC RELATIONS"
Review of the World Bureau of the World
Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

PEN FRIENDS FROM ABROAD

The two letters received from two Scout friends in U. S. A. are published here. Scouts of this State may take this opportunity to correspond with them to know more about them, their way of life, and their methods.

—Editor.

National
Boy Scout Council.

Dear Sir,

I am trying to have my Boy Scouts write to other Boy Scouts in different countries.

I wish that you would send this letter on to some boy that is about the same age as the boy who wrote this letter.

We did not seal the letter, so that you may read it. It is our hope that our boys will get to know each other better, and who knows what will come of this correspondence. Hope this does not impose on you too much.

Thank you,

Scoutingly yours,
Sd/- EDWARD CRANK,
Scoutmaster Troop 24, 509 N, Clarendon,
Kalamazoo, Michigan, U.S.A.

Dear Fellow Scout,

I am anxious to correspond with you. My name is Michael Caley. I am 11 years old. I live at 1816 W. North Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan, United States of America. I am a tenderfoot scout in Troop 24 and I am in the Rattle Snake Patrol

Once a month we go to the Boy Scout Camp for a week-end. In the winter we sleep in a cabin. In the summer, we sleep in tents. I hope you will write back soon.

Yours truly,
Sd/- MICHAEL CALEY,
1816 W. North St., Kalamazoo,
Michigan, U. S. A.

GUIDE MOVEMENT IN MADURAI

D. DAVAMANI,

Former Divisional Secretary, Madurai-Ramnad Division (1931-48)

THE EARLY BEGINNING :

The Girl Guide Movement in Madurai dates back to 1925 when a small company of Girl Guides was at work under the able leadership of the late Miss D. Abraham at Capron Hall, Madurai. I was one of those Girl Guides who attended those meetings with great enthusiasm. As far as I could remember there was another company at St. Joseph's Elementary School, Madurai, under the leadership of Sr. Rose. These were the early beginnings of Girl Guide Movement in Madurai.

THE PIONEER GUIDER :

Miss Abraham believed in the fact that if she could develop one company and train the guides efficiently, later they could become guiders of different companies. She made these meetings so interesting and the guide work so inspiring that we never missed any chance of getting together as guides. To Miss Abraham, we owe a great debt of gratitude for she was the pioneer guider in the District of Madurai. The same could be said of Sr Rose as well. Later the third company sprang up in Capron Hall under the leadership of Miss K. Davamani. This company was known by the name 'The Third Madurai Company'. Sooner or later the Swedish Mission School and the Government Girls' School started each a company. In Capron Hall there was yet another company run in the Tamil medium. There were seven Girl Guide Companies in all in Madurai. Places like Usilampatti, Aruppukottai, Batlagundu, Tirumangalam, that is to say all round Madurai in the Mofussil area Girl Guiding was started. Miss Abraham who founded the first Girl Guide Movement became the District Captain of all the companies in Madurai.

THE TRAINING CAMPS :

Along with the Girl Guide Movement, Miss Abraham was in charge of a Blue Bird flock as well. When Miss Gnanamanickam got the necessary training to run the Blue Bird flock, Miss Abraham turned over the flock management to her. Miss Gnanamanickam went on specialising in Blue Bird work and helped the new flock leaders as circumstances arose. She was also the local Adviser.

During those days Guide Training Camps were held in Anandagiri Ootacamund. We were very fortunate to have leaders like the Robatham sisters, Miss Hacon and Miss Williams. These camps trained leaders that managed the Girl Guide Companies and flocks very efficiently.

GREW BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS :

In Madurai, the Guide Movement grew by leaps and bounds. Very soon the need to organise the movement under one head was keenly felt. Miss Bosenquet in Ramnad was a live wire and she threw herself into the Girl Guide Movement whole-heartedly in the Ramnad District which included Ramnad and Mandapam. Being an English woman she knew the techniques of the Lady Baden Powell Movement. All these different branches came under one head, that head being the Divisional Commissioner, District Commissioners were chosen for the different Districts, but all these came under one leader, the Divisional Commissioner.

THE FIRST DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONER :

Lady Doak was the First Divisional Commissioner in the Madurai-Ramnad Division. She evinced a great deal of interest in the young Movement. Under her leadership a local Association was formed to direct the business of the Guide Movement with Lady Doak as the President, as she was the Divisional Commissioner, and Miss K. Davamani as the Secretary and Treasurer. As the Movement grew a need for a separate Treasurer was felt and Mrs. T. S. Krishnan rendered valuable service to the movement as an Honorary Treasurer for many years. This local Association functioned very efficiently and the members of this body were a great support to the Girl Guide Movement in the Madurai-Ramnad Districts.

Money raising campaigns, Divisional Rallies and Training Camps were organised by this body. I still remember very vividly the first joint rally of the Girl Guide and the Blue Birds of the Madurai Ramnad Division at Fisher's Gardens in Madurai, near the big Teppakulam. It rained and rained on that day but still we carried on that rally applying the law. "A Guide smiles and sings under all circumstances". Thanks to Lady Doak for the help received from the Madurai Mills through her, on that occasion. At this time Lady Doak presented a Big silver floating cup in the Movement.

From then on many joint rallies had taken place in Madurai. Week-end training camps for guiders were held at different centres. Week-end patrol leaders camps were carried out successfully. In the year 1936, 1937, 1938 and 1939 training camps were organised in Kodaikanal under the leadership of Miss K. Davamani as Commandant of the camp, Miss M. Taylor as Quarter Master and Miss Hacon and Miss Gnanamanickam as trainers.

We look back to those days with great joy. I must be failing in my duty if I don't mention the names of the late Mrs. Lorbeer who worked very faithfully as a District Commissioner, in the Mofussil area. Mrs. Flint was another faithful District Commissioner. When Lady Doak left India Mrs. R. D. Paul became the Divisional Commissioner. These and many more names that I cannot mention have contributed their time, energy and money to develop this world wide movement in the city of Madurai. They were the pioneers who toiled earnestly to make this movement live and grow.

SCOUT VISITORS ABROAD

Need to follow Rules and Conventions

In a circular to all the State Commissioners of the Indian Union, the National Chief Commissioner (Guides) Mrs. Lakshmi Mazumdar, stresses the need for Guide Members visiting foreign countries for undergoing any training or attending any gathering, camp or conferences in a country to follow the rules and conventions of the Girl Guides and Girl Scouts Association all over the World. The Chief Guide writes :

“Recently two cases have been brought to our notice by the International Commissioner of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. Two Indian Ladies, who are at present in the U.S.A., have directly approached the National Headquarters of the Girl Scouts Association of the U.S.A.—one asking for the supply of Girl Scout Literature and the other for permission to attend a Training Course at the Edith Macy Training Centre, New York. No one at our National Headquarters knows anything about these two ladies.

“I am sure no member of our Association would like to infringe the normal rules and conventions of the Girl Guides and Girl Scouts Association all over the world and that mistakes in cases of this type are committed because of ignorance of rules and regulations.

Any Girl Guide, Guider, Ranger Leader or Commissioner intending to get in touch with the National Association of the Country visited should have in her possession a letter of introduction before she leaves India. This may be obtained from the International Commissioner, Dr. (Miss) P. Dass, 1, Palace Court Kyd Street, Calcutta. Her application, however should be processed through the proper channel namely the State Headquarters. According to the strict international conventions no member can be recognised by the National Association of another country unless she presents a formal letter of introduction from her own country.

Wanted an Assistant Camp Chief for the Guide Section of the Bharat Scouts and Guides, National Headquarters. Qualifications: Preferably a graduate and should hold an Honorable Charge as D.C.C. or A.D.C.C. Consolidated salary: Rs. 300/- per month in the grade of Rs. 300-20-500. The person selected will be stationed at Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh. Applications giving full details of qualifications, experience, etc. should reach the National Secretary, Bharat Scouts and Guides, Post Box 127, New Delhi-1, by 25th June, 1961.

THE STORY OF A SCOUTMASTER (A Review)

In his wonderful book entitled "GOD AND MY COUNTRY", MacKinlay Kantor, has vividly portrayed the rich and unforgettable experience of a Scoutmaster who has taken to Scouting as his life's mission. This is a moving tale packed with suspense and thrill, and the author traces the soul's stirring journey of Scoutmaster Lem Siddons into the mysteries of this Great Movement. This book will put many scouts into reminiscent mood and will provide them with an opportunity to look back into their own Scout-life and to wonder how similar have been their own experiences.

To take to scouting, with an infinite belief in the Scout law and Promise, is a very great challenge in life. Scouting, when the emphasis is laid on Promise and Law, transcends from being a mere game, to being a way of life, nay, a religion by itself. Wedded to the tenets of Scouting, a Scouter has to grapple with baffling problems as a husband, father, councillor, employer or employee, and above all as a citizen. MacKinlay Kantor, has dealt with Lem Siddons with deep understanding that while reading this book we find ourselves sharing the Scoutmaster's joys and sorrows.

A simplified popular English Edition of this book has been published by Pennant Books. The text has been condensed in length and the vocabulary has been reduced to 2,000 words. This abridged edition can be followed even by a III form boy or girl. It is suggested that Scoutmasters and Guiders recommend this book to the boys and girls in the Movement.

A Tamil edition of this book has been published by Jothi Nilayam, Madras. The translator has not brought out the depth of experience of the scoutmaster portrayed in the English Edition, in all its fullness. What is after all important in the book is not the story but the depth of feeling one experiences by a perusal of this Scout book.

HIMALAYA WOOD BADGE CERTIFICATES

Part One (Theory) Issued to:

Certificate No. & Date	SECTION	Name and address.
2/61—19/4/1961	Scout	Sri R. Sundaram, Scouter, Dalmiapuram, Trichi Dt.
4/61—29/4/1961	Cub	Sri S. G. Ranganathan, Scouter, Madras Corporation.
5/61—29/4/1961	Cub	Sri G. Ganapathy Aiyer, Scouter, Tanjore.

HIMALAYA WOOD BADGE (SCOUT)—Part I

Sri R. Sundaram, Group Leader (Scouts), Dalmia High School, Dalmiapuram, Tiruchirappalli—District has been awarded Part I certificate No. 2/61, dated 19/4/1961.

MAN IS GREAT

"There on the crest of the hill
stands the Man of faith amid the snow-white
silence,
He scans the sky for some signal of light,
and when the clouds thicken and the nightbirds
scream as they fly,
he cries, 'Brothers, despair not, for Man is great'.

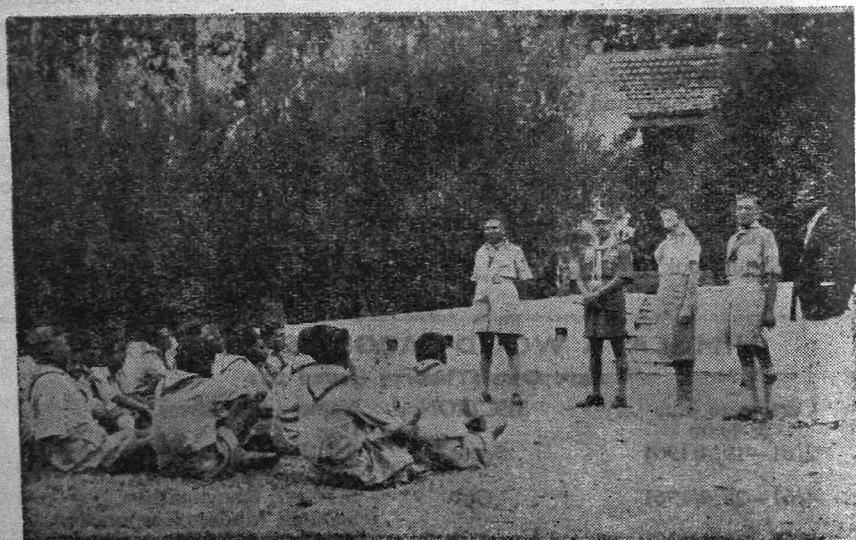
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Men raise their heads and look up,
Women left their arms in reverence,
Children clap their hands and laugh,
The early glow of the sun shines like a golden garland
on the forehead of the Man of faith,
and they all cry, 'Brother, we salute thee :"

—RABINDRANATH TAGORE.



Scoutmasters' Preliminary Training Course—Stanley Park Training Centre, Coonoor—From 14-4-1961 to 25-4-1961. Camp Officer: Sri N. V. Ramaswamy, A.D.C.C., Chidambaram, S. Arcot Dist. in the centre.

DISTRICT NEWS

KUMBAKONAM.

The Local Association, Kumbakonam, celebrated the Golden Jubilee of the Guide Movement on April 15, 1961 at the Town High School, Kumbakonam. Two hundred and fifty bul-buls, guides and guiders from schools all over the taluk attended.

Miss. C. John, State Organising Commissioner (Guides), inaugurated the function in the morning. Srimathi Indra Nagarajan, District Commissioner (Guides), Tanjore, presided over the Guiders' Conference, held at noon. "Proper uniform for bul-buls and Guides, functions and duties of the guiders' Club and Flock leaders, Bul bul calls" were some of the subjects discussed at the conference.

A public meeting was held in the evening under the presidency of Mrs. Vasantha Sundaram. Mr. K. S. Krishnaswamy Iyengar, Chairman of the Association, welcomed the gathering and spoke on the achievements and progress made by the Guide Movement during the last fifty years.

Sri. K. S. Seshadri, Assistant State Commissioner (Scouts) explained in detail how the Guide Movement fostered unity and built up character among the girls. Miss. C. John delivered "the Jubilee Address" on the occasion. A camp fire was held and bul buls and Guides entertained the public. Mr. V. Pichumani, General Secretary proposed a vote of thanks.

CENTRAL BUL BUL AND CUB CAMPS

Under the auspices of the Bharat Scouts and Guides Local Association, Kumbakonam, the 17th Central Bul-Bul and Cub Camps were held in the Town High School, Kumbakonam on April 15 and 16, 1961. About 400 bul buls and cubs participated. Mrs. Indra Nagarajan, District Commissioner (Guides) and Sri. S. R. Srinivasachary, Assistant District Commissioner (scouts) were in-charge of the camps.

Mrs. Vasantha Sundaram, presided over the Bul Bul Day and distributed certificates of Merit to the winners of the various competitions and the Rolling Shield to the St. Joseph Bul Bul Flock.

The Cub Day was presided over by Sri. V. M. Subramanya Iyer, Vice-Chairman, Kumbakonam Municipal Council. The Rolling Shield for Cubs for all round proficiency was annexed by the St. Joseph's Cub Pack.

Mr. K. S. Sehsadri, Assistant State Commissioner and Miss C. John, State Organising Commissioner (Guides) visited the camps. Mr. H. Krishnamoorthy, District Scout Organiser, Tanjore District Board, Mr. K. Srinivasalu, District Cubmaster, Mrs. V. Savithri, A. D. C., Miss. M. Parvathi, A. D. C., Mrs. K. R. Kaveri, D.R.L., Mrs. K. S. Sonnammal, D. F. L. and Rev. Sister Nivolis Mary, D. G. C. helped a great deal in conducting the camps.

NAGERCOIL

A Guide Captains' cum-Flock Leaders' Preliminary Training Camp was conducted by Miss. C. John, D. C. C. assisted by Miss. Sellammal James, at the St. Josephs' Convent, Nagercoil from April, 18 to 28, 1961. Since Kanyakumari District came into Madras State this has been the first Training Camp for the Guides Section.

The Chief Minister Sri. K. Kamaraj was the Guest of Honour on the visitors' day. He inspected the Patrol Corners and was very much interested in the gadgets. Sr. Mary Patric, Vice-President of the Dist. Association welcomed the gathering. After the guide displays, the Chief Minister addressed the gathering and distributed the certificates. Sri. Ambashankar, I.A.S., President of the District Association proposed the vote of thanks.

The Training Camp has been sponsored by the District Collector and organised through the District Educational Officer.

MADRAS NORTH

The 27th Annual Rally of the North Madras District Association was held on April 15, 1961 at Don Bosco' Oratory grounds, Broadway, Madras. Sri S. Balakrishna Shetty, Inspector General of Police, Madras presided. About 500 Scouts and Guides took part in the Rally.

The Rovers, the Sea Scouts and the Guides gave a possee of welcome to the President Sri T. Chengalvaraya Pillai, President of the Association welcomed the Chief Guest and those assembled.

The Honorary Secretary, Sri A. Kandaswamy, presented the Annual Report.

The President in his address appreciated the various activities of the Scout and Guide sections and appealed to the youngsters to join this voluntary organisation and derive training in discipline and character which would stand them in good stead when they grow into full blown citizens.

Mrs. Balakrishna Shetty then distributed the cups and certificates to the winners and runners up in the various competitions.

With the singing of the National Anthem, the function came to an end.

TIRUKAMAPURAM.

Scouts, Scouters, Guiders numbering 100 collected from the Board High Schools, Enangudi, Peralam, Titacheri and Nannilam and Board Elementary School, Nannilam rendered festival service at Tirukamapuram during the Float Festival on March 6, 1961.

ORATTANAD

Scouts, Cubs, Bulbuls of Board High School and Board Elementary School, Orattanad numbering 100 gave a reception to the State Commissioner (scouts) and rendered service at the School improvement conference on March 14, 1961 at Orattanad.

KODAVASAL

The Shivaji Scout Troop of the Board High School, Kodavasal camped at Thirukkalambar, a village on the banks of the River Vettar.

The camp went on for three days on April 22, 23 and 24th. Messrs H. Krishnamoorthy, District Scout Organiser, J. S. Nesayya, District Commissioner, G. A. Daniel, Assistant

District Commissioner, R. V. Viswanathan, District Scoutmaster, and the Secretary, Local Scout Association, Mannarkudi were the chief guests.

Sri A. Sethumathava Rao, a Scouter and the Executive Officer of the Thirukkalamambur Devasthanam was at home and helped the campers a great deal.

The troop celebrated its anniversary on the third day.

ETTUGUDI

A contingent of Scouts and Scouters numbering twenty of Board Higher Ele. School, Kilayur and Board High School, Tiruvarur rendered Festival Scout Service from April 28 to May 1, 1961 at Ettugudi during Chitrapowrnami Festival. An unique opportunity for service which the Scout contingent caught by forelock was the fire incident in a neighbouring area. The Scouts rushed to the spot and rendered useful work in putting out the fire in time.

Sri G. Ramanuja Mudaliar, Managing Trustee and Sri K. Natarajan, Executive Officer of the Temple rendered very good help to the members of the contingent during their stay at Ettugudi.

NILGIRI DISTRICT

Forty members of the Tensingh Group, Kodakara, Trichur District Scouts and Guides visited the Scouts and Guides, Kulakombai at their school Buildings on April 29, 1961. A Rally was later held at Craigmere Bungalow Scout and Guide Ground. Mrs. R. E. MacLaine-Clarke, District Commissioner (Guides) presided. Candle dance, Kolattam, Malayalam Kummi dance and other interesting displays were held. Miss Theresa, Girl Guide Captain proposed a vote of thanks.

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A Rally of all Bulbuls, Cubs and Scouts of the Mudis Group of estates was held on the April 27, 1961 at the Mudis Club grounds.

Mr. J. M. B. Gibbons presided over the Rally and took the Salute at the March Past.

Demonstrations of Cub, Bulbul and Scout activities, folk songs and dances were put up by the children. An exhibition of handicrafts by the Bulbuls, models of Scout-craft and charts concerning Scouting was got up for the occasion.

Mr. P. Y. Fairbarin Group Manager, Mrs. E. A. Body, District Commissioner (Guides), Mr. M. Ram Mohan, Joint State Organising Commissioner, and managers of all Estates also witnessed the Rally.

Sri K. S. Sampat, Scout Organiser was in charge of the Rally.

MADRAS CORPORATION DISTRICT

The Members of the Madras Corporation Bharat Scouts and Guides District Association got up a Farewell party to the retiring Organising Secretary, Sri S. M. A. Samad, at the Corporation Scout and Guide Headquarters, Peoples' Park, Madras. Sri S. G. Vinayagamoorthy, District Commissioner (Scouts) of Madras Corporation District Association, presided over the function.

Sri G. Rajamannar, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Corporation District Association and Sri P. V. Krishnamurthy, Assistant Educational Officer and others Culogised the qualities of the head and heart of Sri. Samad, the retiring Organising Secretary.

THE GUIDE CHALLENGE

Sister Marie Celine

So much is spoken of the wrong in the world to day, that involuntarily folks conclude, "This is the worst of times". "Nay, Nay," says the Guide Movement, "This is the best of times".

Best, because never before was man challenged as he is today. Never before had the youth of the world such a wonderful, friendly, international movement as the Guide movement.

The peculiar challenge of the Guide movement is that it can help Guides develop four senses essential for good citizenship, for world friendship and international peace, for building the brotherhood of nations based on the Fatherhood of God.

The Guide movement develops a sense of God, a sense of honour and direction, a sense of responsibility and accountability, a sense of mission.

Youth is faced with two alternatives, to be God-centred or self-centred. The Guide promise, "To do your best to do your duty to God and country; to help other people at all times and to obey the Guide laws", rouses an awareness of God.

Sense of direction and honour is acquired through the practice of the Guide laws. The laws tell them what they have to do. Honour, loyalty, usefulness, friendliness, courtesy, kindness to animals, cheerfulness, thrift, purity in thought, word and deed, what more do you want to make you go full sail on the path of love and charity?

Accountability and responsibility are old fashioned words but assets to youth. The Guide movement teaches that a Guide is accountable to God for everything by learning to be responsible for his chores and assigned tasks. Doing things by themselves for themselves and for others, being prepared for anything, learning useful arts like, cooking, laundry, nursing, domestic work, learning to appreciate outdoor life to camping, learning to be alert makes life realistic.

The Guide movement inculcates also a sense of mission. A sense of mission is in keeping with the global outlook, which today minimizes distance in the world.

"Our noble standard, the golden trefoil,
We'll proudly raise to heaven above.
We'll face the future with joy and courage,
And build a new world with our love."

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